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MARINE CORPS EMERGENCY ACTIONS CENTER
Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps
Washington 25, D. C.

SUMMARY OF ITEMS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST

PERIOD 080701 - 090700 AUGUST 1962

I. ASIA

a. THE NAVAL ATTACHE, BANGKOK, HAS NOTIFIED CNO THAT THE JUSMAG IN BANGKOK BELIEVES THE CONTEMPLATED VISIT TO THAILAND, BY GENERAL SHOUP WOULD AFFORD AN EXCELLANT OPPORTUNITY FOR AWARDDING THE LEGION OF MERIT, DEGREE OF OFFICER, TO REAR ADMIRAL DISKUL, COMMANDANT ROYAL THAI MARINE CORPS.

ALUSNA BANGKOK 060901Z (C)

b. CINCPAC HAS REPLIED TO A JCS REQUEST FOR HIS VIEWS REGARDING THE RELATIVE MERITS OF PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT FOR USE IN SOUTH VIETNAM. CINCPAC, IN HIS ANALYSIS OF THE RT-33 AS COMPARED TO THE RB-26, RC-47, OR RT-28, EMPHASIZES THAT HE CANNOT JUSTIFY FROM A MILITARY STANDPOINT THE EXCLUSION OF A SUPERIOR CAPABILITY TO GAIN VITAL INTELLIGENCE. CINCPAC ALSO RECOMMENDS A SOLUTION FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE RT-33 IN THE EVENT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS CONTINUE TO OVERRIDE MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND IGNORE THE FACT THAT JET ENGINED AIRCRAFT ARE ALREADY IN SOUTH VIETNAM. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE VIETNAM ARMED FORCES WITH NEEDED PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE CAPABILITY AND MEET THEIR INTELLIGENCE NEED, TWO T-33S AND FOUR RT-33S SHOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO SOUTH VIETNAM WITHOUT DELAY.

CINCPAC 080405Z (S)

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2. EUROPE

a. JCS HAS INFORMED USCINCEUR, CINCLANT, CINCNELM, AND CINCSTRIKE OF A COS, US ARMY PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE TWO AIRBORN BATTLEGROUPS NOW IN EUROPE TO INFANTRY BATTLE GROUPS. ALSO COS, US ARMY INTENDS TO CANCEL A SEPARATE AIRBORNE BATTLE GROUP PROGRAMMED FOR ACTIVATION IN USEUCOM, THUS ELIMINATING PRESENT AND PROJECTED AIRBORNE CAPABILITIES THERE. PENDING RECEIPT OF COMMENTS AND REVIEW, JCS PROPOSES TO REQUIRE CINCSTRIKE TO PROVIDE AIRBORNE FORCES WHEN REQUIRED BY USCINCEUR, CINCLANT, AND CINCNELM.

JCS 081839Z (S)

3. CARIBBEAN

a. THE CINCLANT DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY OF 8 AUGUST STATES THAT THERE IS NOTHING TO SUBSTANTIATE RUMORS OF THE ARRIVAL OF 4000 RUSSIAN TROOPS IN CUBA AS WAS REPORTED BY THE PRESS SERVICES.

CINCLANT 082152Z (S)

b. SEVERAL UNRELATED SOURCES HAVE REPORTED THE ARRIVAL IN CUBA OF BETWEEN 500 and 1000 ALLEGEDLY CHINESE, POSSIBLY MILITARY, PERSONNEL BETWEEN 1-3 AUGUST. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF THESE PERSONNEL IS UNKNOWN. ON 6 AUGUST A CUBAN LOCAL RADIO STATION ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL OF AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF CHINESE FARMERS. NO MENTION OF THE ARRIVALS HAVE BEEN NOTED IN THE CUBAN NATIONAL NEW MEDIA.

COMNAVBASE GTMO 081435Z (S)

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ADDENDUM # 1 TO SUMMARY OF ITEMS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST
PERIOD 070701 - 080700 AUGUST 1962

1. CARIBBEAN

a. CINCONAD ADVISES THAT A RECENT INTELLIGENCE REPORT INDICATES THAT ONE AND POSSIBLY TWO CUBAN EXILE GROUPS HAVE ACQUIRED B-26 TYPE AIRCRAFT AND HAVE PLANNED RAIDS ON CUBAN TARGETS. THIS REPORT FURTHER INDICATES THAT THESE AIRCRAFT WILL HEAD FOR SOUTHERN FLORIDA OR NASSAU UPON COMPLETION OF RAIDS.

CINCONAD STATES THAT HE HAS NO CONFIRMATION THAT SUCH ATTACKS WILL OCCUR. HOWEVER, SHOULD THEY OCCUR, U. S. NAVY AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS OPERATING IN THE KEY WEST AREA COULD BE ENDANGERED BY A REACTION ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA OR THE OVER-ZEALOUS CUBAN PILOT. IF THIS HAPPENS, CINCONAD WILL REQUEST FIGHTER ASSISTANCE FROM CINCLANTFLT.

ADDITIONALLY, CINCONAD HAS TAKEN STEPS TO INCREASE ALERTNESS OF SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT IN THAT AREA TO REPORT UN-IDENTIFIED, LOW-FLYING AIRCRAFT. HE HAS PLACED TWO ARMED AIRCRAFT OF NAVY SQUADRON VF-101 AT KEY WEST ON AN ONE-HOUR ALERT AND HAS ALSO INCREASED READINESS OF SHIPS IN PORT. EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO IMPLEMENT THESE READINESS MEASURES IN A ROUTINE MANNER TO AVOID SPECULATION BY PERSONNEL CONCERNED OR TO ATTRACT ATTENTION OF NEWS MEDIA.

JWR 080700Q (S)
CINCONAD 070730Z (S)

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CARIBBEAN (Contd)

b. CINCLANT HAS SUBMITTED TO JCS A RECOMMENDED CONCEPT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MILITARY EMERGENCY ZONE (MEZ) TO BE LOCATED WITHIN CERTAIN GEOGRAPHICAL POINTS IN THE SOUTHERN FLORIDA AREA.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEZ WOULD BE TO ALLEVIATE CONGESTION CAUSED BY UNNECESSARY AIR TRAFFIC WITHIN THE AREA DURING THE EXECUTION OF CINCLANT CUBAN CONTINGENCY PLANS. THE PROPOSED MEZ AIRSPACE RESERVATION WOULD BE ESTABLISHED AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF AIR STRIKES OR EARLIER IF DIRECTED.

CINCLANT REQUESTS THAT THE MEZ CONCEPT BE APPROVED NOW TO PERMIT CONTINUED PLANNING BY CINCLANT. JCS IS REQUESTED TO UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY COORDINATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WHEN AND AS REQUIRED.

CINCLANT 071826Z (TS)

c. JCS HAS REQUESTED THAT CINCLANT, IN COORDINATION WITH HQ USAF, DEVELOP ALTERNATE PLANS FOR CINCLANT OPLANS 314-61 AND 316-61 NOT INVOLVING ANY MOBILIZATION OF RESERVE PERSONNEL OR UNITS.

JCS 072228Z (TS)

2. MISCELLANEOUS

a. AT 1933 HOURS EDT YESTERDAY, 7 AUGUST, THE JCS DIRECTED INITIATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMERGENCY PLANS EXERCISE FOR AUGUST. DODEPs ARE COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISES DESIGNED TO PERIODICALLY CHECK ELAPSED TIMES NECESSARY TO MAKE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS TO THE CINCS, VIA VOICE CONFERENCE AND FLASH PRECEDENCE TELETYPE MESSAGES.